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IS UNRECOGNIZED

MONROE DOCTRINE IS NOT OFFICIAL LAW OF NATIONS.

ITS EXACTIONS OF NO MOMENT

Berlin Vossische Zeitung Bitterly Assails the Declaration—Declares Even American States Do Not Recognize It.

BERLIN.—The government is without information regarding the landing of the German marines at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela. The foreign office says that if such landing occurred it must have been transient and regards the reported seizure of the customs at Puerto Cabello by German marines as a canard.

Several newspapers in their yearly political reviews, devote much attention to Venezuela and the Monroe doctrine. The Vossische Zeitung (independent liberal), regards Germany's proceedings against Venezuela as entirely within the limits of international law.

"Whoever has a claim against another," says the journal, "tries to collect it, whether they be private individuals or nations. If anybody disputes our right to compel payment of the Venezuelan claims we must ask that person if he be willing to pay the debt himself, or give guarantees therefor. If so, the matter speedily could be settled, but, if this other person is unwilling to give such guarantees, his objections don't concern us. The United States could settle the trouble between Germany and Venezuela in a moment if it would stand good for the payment of our claims, but the United States is unwilling to take this step and we cannot demand that it do so. In this case the United States should not hinder Germany from pursuing a course that is deemed expedient."

The Vossische Zeitung refers to what it calls "the wild noise" in a portion of the American press which declares that Germany has no right under the Monroe doctrine to take forcible action in Venezuela and that Germany has not even recognized the Monroe doctrine.

"The latter assertion is correct," says the journal. "No other European state ever recognized this doctrine and we believe no European country will ever do so. The Monroe doctrine is not adapted to become a subject of diplomatic negotiation and the document hardly exists in which this doctrine is laid before any European power with the request that this power make a declaration thereon."

After reciting the history and origin of the doctrine the paper asserts that the right of intervention claimed by the holy alliance has long since been abandoned. The countries of South America have been in a state of chronic revolution, yet nobody in Europe dreams of intervention. The disastrous issue of Napoleon's attempt in Mexico renders it probable that no European state will ever repeat the effort to establish itself in the western hemisphere.

"Later interpretations of the Monroe doctrine," continues the Zeitung, "do not involve the defined hegemony of the United States over Central and South America. The United States claims suzerainty over these states, with the right of intervention, but denies to European countries the right to interfere in their affairs. How far such suzerainty extends and what rights and obligations come from it have never been cleared up. Neither have the Central and South American states recognized this suzerainty, but they have decidedly rejected it owing to its repulsion of the Romanic and Germanic races. No European state has made concession in this respect and finally the United States itself has given no clear statement of its aims."

"The Monroe doctrine does not belong to international law, but to conjectural politics. It binds nobody and endows nobody with rights. Germany has no obligation to recognize and no occasion to dispute the Monroe doctrine. The South American states stand toward Germany as sovereign nations, and they all have the rights and all the obligations of sovereign states, and having such obligations must pay their debts."

"Germany will establish its claims considerably in form and energetically in action."

The Tagliche Rundschau complains that that hard realist, the Yankee, does not appreciate courtesies like the visit of Prince Henry and the gift of the statue of Frederick the Great, "but blows a few notes into the rusty and hoarse Monroe trumpet and Germany must let that impudent trickster, President Castro, alone while he laughs in his fist."

WORK AHEAD FOR CONGRESS.

Not Much Expected for Several Days—Many Senators Still Absent.

WASHINGTON—Many of the sena-

tors who left Washington for the Christmas holidays are still absent and the present indications are that when business is resumed there will not be a very full attendance. Before the week is far advanced, however, the senate will again be in regular working order and there will be little cessation of work before March 4. The prediction is very general that the remainder of the session will be exceedingly busy, because of the number of important questions which will be pressed forward before final adjournment.

During the present week and probably for some time to come the omnibus statehood bill will be the chief topic of discussion on the floor, but under the unanimous agreement by which the bill was made the unfinished business it cannot be taken up any day before 2 o'clock. It is the purpose of the friends of the bill to press its consideration and not to allow the bill to be sidetracked unless under very great pressure. The present purpose is to give way only for appropriation bills, but there are no appropriation bills on the senate calendar. It is, however, the purpose of the senatorial leaders, and especially of those who oppose the statehood bill, to press appropriation bills to the front as rapidly as possible.

The senate committee on appropriations will immediately take up the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and it will be reported to the senate as soon as possible. It is a bill which demands considerable investigation, and it is not probable that it will reach the senate much before the middle of the month. When it is reported the committee will seek to secure its immediate consideration.

According to the arrangement made before the holidays, the debate on the statehood bill will be resumed at 2 o'clock Monday, Senator Nelson of Minnesota being the first speaker on the list. He is a member of the committee on territories and in addition to his opposition to the admission of the territories of New Mexico and Arizona, he is a staunch advocate of the bill for the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state, which was reported by the majority of the committee as a substitute for the house omnibus bill. He has a carefully prepared speech and its delivery probably will require the greater part of two days. Senator Burrows will be heard next and he will probably speak for two days or more. Other republican senators have agreed to speak in opposition to the bill and it is now estimated that there will be no fewer than fifteen anti-statehood speeches before consideration of the measure is concluded. Some speeches in support of the bill are promised, but the indications are somewhat against the delivery of any of them during the present week, though it is possible that Senator Foraker, who is an earnest advocate of the omnibus bill, may be heard some time within the next few days.

GOVERNOR TAFT REPORTS.

Submits Annual Statement of Philippine Commission.

WASHINGTON.—The annual report of the Philippine commission and a separate report by Governor W. H. Taft, made public at the War department, gives a review of the results of the year's work of the commission and making recommendations for legislative action by congress deemed essential to the welfare of the islands.

After reciting a history of the establishment of civil government throughout the various provinces, Governor Taft in his report says it has not been definitely determined what shall be done with respect to Mindanao where, he says, hostility to the American does not extend beyond the lake, Lanao Moros. The governor is of the opinion that it may be possible to induce the sultan of Jolo to part with some of the rights he claims to the Jolo group, thus obviating many obstacles now encountered.

The Moros, he says, do not understand popular government and do not desire it, preferring control by dattos. "Possibly far in the future," he says, "control by dattos may cease. For the present, however, it is necessary only to provide a paternal, strong, but sympathetic government for these followers of Mohammed."

Governor Taft tells of the conditions that have made it necessary for the islands to purchase about \$15,000,000 worth of food on which to live and of the effects war has had upon agriculture, almost the only source of wealth in the islands. The greatest blow to agriculture, he says, is the destruction of about 90 per cent of the water buffalo on which the cultivation of rice is almost wholly dependent.

Bubonic Plague Spreading.

LAREDO, Tex.—A special from Hermosillo, Tex., says: Three cases of the bubonic plague have been reported in the little town of Ahome, in Sinaloa, not far from the Sonora border. The authorities of Sonora have notified those of Sinaloa that a sanitary cordon has been established on the border and no one will be permitted to enter the state from the south.

STANDS BY NEGRO

PRESIDENT WANTS JUSTICE DONE BLACK PEOPLE.

POSTMASTER MADE TO RESIGN

Threats of Violence Made by Lawless Mississippians Compels Capable Employee of Government to Quit the Service.

WASHINGTON.—The feature of the cabinet meeting Friday was the decision to close permanently the post-office at Indianola, Miss., from which the postmaster, Minnie M. Cox, colored, resigned under compulsion a few days ago, since which time the office has been closed.

The postmaster general has had a thorough investigation made, and has become satisfied that the woman was obliged to resign under duress; in fact, that her life was endangered.

Having represented this state of affairs to the cabinet, after a long discussion, the decision above noted was reached and the office will not be reopened until the people in the district are ready to accept this woman as their postmaster.

Secretary Cortelyou, for the president, made public the following:

"The postmaster at Indianola, Miss., is Mrs. Minnie W. Cox, a colored woman. She served three years as postmaster under President Harrison. When President McKinley came in she was again appointed, in 1897, nearly six years ago.

"Her character and standing in the community are endorsed by the best and most reputable people in the town.

"The postmaster and her husband own from \$10,000 to \$15,000 worth of property in Sunflower county. The reports of postoffice inspectors who have investigated the office from time to time show that she has given the utmost satisfaction to all the patrons of the office; that she is at all times courteous, faithful, competent and honest in the discharge of her duties. Her moral standing in the community is of the highest.

"The postmaster recently forwarded her resignation to take effect on January 1, but the report of inspectors and information received from various reputable white citizens of the town and neighborhood show that the resignation was forced by a brutal and lawless element purely upon the ground of her color and was obtained under terror of threats. The mayor of the town and the sheriff of the county both told the postoffice inspector that if she refused to resign they would not be responsible for her safety, although at the same time not one word was said against her."

POISON IN CHRISTMAS WINE.

Husband, Wife and Child Arrested Charged with Murder.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Poisoning. It is charged by means of a bottle of wine given as a Christmas present, Richard Cummings, 50 years old, died at the home of Mrs. Lizzie Shanahan, 4228 Ashland avenue, where he was boarding. William Moniak, his wife, Mrs. Theresa Moniak, and their 14-year-old daughter Mary, of 4226 Ashland avenue, were arrested on suspicion of having poisoned Cummings.

A bitter quarrel is said to have taken place between Cummings and Mrs. Shanahan on one side and the Moniahs on the other. The wine, according to the story told to the police, was given to Mrs. Shanahan by Mary Moniak on behalf of her parents as a peace offering. Mrs. Shanahan drank some of it and said she suffered from severe pain soon afterward. She offered some of the wine to her niece, who complained that it tasted bitter. Cummings drank the remainder and died twenty-four hours later.

"I have been poisoned by that bottle of wine and I want the people who gave it to me arrested," were his last words to Mrs. Shanahan," Dr. Wm. T. Kirby, who attended him, received a similar statement.

Moniak and his wife deny that they had any knowledge of poison being in the wine.

Insane Man Has Arsenal.

NEW YORK.—A man, apparently insane, tried to gain entrance to the private office of General Greene, the new police commissioner, at police headquarters Friday, saying that he was the new commissioner. Inspector Brooks inveigled him to the Mulberry street station. Two loaded revolvers were found in his coat pockets.

Death of J. J. Dickey.

OMAHA.—John Jay Dickey, superintendent of the Fifth Central district of the Western Union Telegraph company, comprising the lines between Omaha and the Rocky mountains, died at his home at Rose farm, near this city, Monday night. Mr. Dickey was taken sick December 22 with pleurisy. He retired to his room and grew steadily worse until his heart became affected and pneumatic complications set in.

ASKS FOR ASSISTANCE.

Caleb Powers of Kentucky Says His Means Are Exhausted.

GEORGETOWN, Ky.—Ex-Secretary of State Caleb Powers, who has had two trials and now awaits in jail here his third trial for complicity in the murder of the late Governor William Goebel, issued the following appeal to the public:

"I have had written a number of letters to different states asking for financial aid in my coming trial for alleged complicity in the Goebel murder. A portion of the press has, through a misunderstanding of the facts, attempted to thwart my plan for raising the much-needed money with which to defend myself, by circulating a report that these letters were not genuine because signed by different persons for me.

"It is true that many of the letters were signed by different persons, because it was impossible for one person to send them out in the limited time before my next trial, but all of these letters are genuine.

"I have been continuously in the jails of this state for nearly three years. My means are exhausted. The generosity of Kentucky has been taxed to the utmost in my former so-called trials. In a few weeks I am again to be tried for my life. Hence my appeal now to my friends outside of Kentucky."

POSSIBILITY OF TROUBLE.

Cordon of Deputies Will Protect Negro Postmistress.

INDIANOLA, Miss.—Every effort is being made to suppress any trouble that might be caused by the closing of the postoffice. The mayor and the sheriff of the county say they do not apprehend that there will be an outbreak. The fact that a cordon of deputy sheriffs has been thrown around the town leads many to think trouble is brewing. Messages are hourly coming in from all parts of the surrounding country offering assistance of arms, ammunition and money, if needed.

Sheriff Cox of this county said that if Minnie Coxe wanted to open the post office and feared violence he would deputize enough men to guard the office and patrol the town. The colored postmistress has made no application to the authorities for protection. The city officials believe a number of secret service men are on the scene, awaiting any developments that may arise.

Postoffice Inspector Fitzgerald has been assigned here from Louisiana.

MITCHELL NOT A PARTISAN.

Mine President Does Not Seek Political Preferment.

INDIANAPOLIS.—National Secretary Wilson of the United Mine Workers Friday night discussed the action of the Chicago Cook County Democracy in electing President John Mitchell to membership. He said:

"I know there has been a lot of talk in Illinois lately regarding Mitchell's politics. There has been talk of bringing him out for governor. But the amusing part of the situation is that while they have been talking in Illinois of making him the democratic nominee for governor, in some eastern places there has been talk of him as a running mate for President Roosevelt in 1904.

"The truth of the situation, so far as Mitchell is concerned, is that he is not taking any part in politics and he has no intention of entering politics. He is not a partisan in any sense of the word."

Officer is Missing.

DENVER.—Second Lieutenant William M. Kistler, Company M, Eighteenth United States Infantry, has been missing from Fort Logan for nearly two weeks. The Denver police department has been asked to help locate him.

Lieutenant Kistler is 23 years old and enlisted as a private in the Sixth cavalry seven years ago at Philadelphia. He went with the battery to the Philippines and saw service in and about Manila.

Wild Engine Kills Four.

BURLINGTON, Vt.—A wild engine running from Burlington to Rutland on the Rutland railroad crashed into the northbound flyer from New York at Shelbourne. The crews of both engines were killed and a brakeman who was riding on the wild engine was probably fatally hurt, and nearly every one of the flyer's crew were injured more or less seriously. No passengers were hurt, although many received bruises.

May Seek the Federal Court.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo.—An effort will be made by the packers of this city, alleged to be in combine to maintain prices, to get their cases into the federal court if state authorities make an attack on the charters of the corporations. The finding of the master in chancery that a combine exists gives the attorney general an opportunity to administer a nominal fine. He has not indicated what further action he will take.